

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, after the title and before the paragraph beginning on line 4, please insert the following header:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, after line 20 and before the paragraph beginning on line 21, please insert the following header:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, after line 14, please insert the following header, and replace the subsequent paragraphs beginning on 15 and ending on line 26, as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

~~In the drawing:~~

Figure ~~figure~~ 1 shows a perspective view of a first embodiment of the device according to the invention;

Figure ~~figure~~ 2 shows a perspective view of a second embodiment of the device according to the invention;

Figure ~~figure~~ 3 shows a perspective detail view of the band clamping and guiding means of the embodiment shown in figure 2;

Figures ~~figures~~ 4, including 4A-4D, and 5, including 5A-5E, show perspective views of the band clamping and guiding means of the embodiment shown in figure 2 during a possible embodiment of the method according to the invention.

On page 4, after line 26, please insert the following header, and replace the subsequent paragraphs beginning on 27 and ending on line 32, as follows: